



## **Working Group on Culture**

### **Programme 2005-2007**

UCLG's Executive Bureau  
Beijing, 9th June 2005

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## A. United Cities and Local Governments

Founded in May 2004, United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) is the united voice and world advocate of democratic local self-government. Based in Barcelona, UCLG is the largest local government organisation in the world. Representing over half the world's population, the cities and association members of UCLG are present in over 120 UN Member States across seven world regions – Africa, Asia-Pacific, Europe, Eurasia, Middle East and West Asia, Latin America and North America. Over 1000 cities are direct members of United Cities and Local Governments, as well as 120 national associations representing all the cities and local governments in a single country ([www.cities-localgovernments.org](http://www.cities-localgovernments.org)).

On 7<sup>th</sup> October 2004, the Executive Bureau of United Cities and Local Governments adopted the Agenda 21 for culture as a reference document for its programmes on culture, assumed a coordination role in the follow-up process and decided to create a Working Group on this issue.

UCLG's Working Group on Culture is the meeting point for cities and local governments that place culture at the heart of their development processes.

## B. Agenda 21 for culture

Agenda 21 for culture, an undertaking by cities and local governments for cultural development, was agreed at the IV Forum of Local Authorities in Barcelona on 8 May 2004 as “a guiding document for public cultural policies and a contribution to the cultural development of humanity”.

By approving the Agenda 21 for culture (<http://www.agenda21culture.net/>), the signatory cities and local governments adopted a document that establishes the critical aspects of cultural development across the world, and undertook a firm commitment to give culture a key role in their urban policies.

Between January 2003 and May 2004, previous drafts of the Agenda 21 for culture had been discussed by networks including Interlocal, Eurocities and Sigma. The document was also discussed in fora such as the European Forum of Local Authorities, Interacció, the Euroamerican Campus on Cultural Cooperation, the Forum Latino-Americano da Agenda 21 das Cidades para a Cultura and Delibera.info.

On 15 September 2004, the document was presented to UN-Habitat, UNESCO and UCLG - United Cities and Local Governments at the symposium organised by the World Urban Forum in the framework of the Universal Forum of Cultures – Barcelona 2004.

A growing number of cities and local governments across the world have endorsed the Agenda 21 for culture in their local councils, a process which has inspired interest from international organisations, national governments and civil society.

## c. Objectives 2005-2007

### Main objective

To promote the role of culture as a central dimension of local policies through the dissemination and implementation of the Agenda 21 for culture.

### Sub-objectives

#### *1. To develop the institutional framework of cities and local governments*

- 1.1. To formally constitute the Working Group on Culture
- 1.2. To ensure coordination in the implementation of the Programme 2005-2007 of the Working Group on Culture with UCLG's World Secretariat, and to involve the regional and metropolitan sections of UCLG in the development of the institutional framework.
- 1.3. To increase the representation of cities from un-represented regions and to involve cities which have excelled in the commitment to relate culture, citizenship and democracy, and/or to implement strategic plans on culture
- 1.4. To continue the strategic relations with the Forum of Local Authorities

#### *2. To guide the development and implementation of services to cities*

- 2.1. To create and update a database of all the cities and local governments implementing activities under the framework of the Agenda 21 for culture
- 2.2. To update and maintain the website containing the Agenda 21 for culture translated into several languages and other resources (research centres, bibliography...)
- 2.3. To promote the Working Group and the Agenda 21 for culture to cities, local governments and associations which are members of UCLG
- 2.4. To edit and publish documents on the Agenda 21 for culture
- 2.5. To develop and disseminate ad-hoc reports, handbooks or guides for cities and local governments to design and implement a local/municipal plan on culture or a Local Agenda 21 for culture

#### *3. To develop institutional partnerships in culture*

- 3.1. To disseminate the Agenda 21 for culture and stimulate debates on the relevance of culture in urban policies with cities and national associations of municipalities
- 3.2. To disseminate the Agenda 21 for culture and stimulate debates on the relevance of culture in urban policies with city and regional networks such as Eurocities, Interlocal or Mercociudades
- 3.3. To establish a framework relation with UNESCO and put forward specific partnership proposals

- 3.4. To disseminate the Agenda 21 for culture, to raise awareness and to propose specific partnerships with other international organisations, including UN agencies and programmes, multilateral bodies and regional organisations
- 3.5. To disseminate the Agenda 21 for culture to the international cooperation agencies that include culture in processes of development aid
- 3.6. To establish links with the international networks for cultural diversity
- 3.7. To establish links with the Universal Forum of Cultures foundation
- 3.8. To identify sources of funding for the Agenda 21 for culture

#### *4. To promote research and development in culture*

- 4.1. To promote UCLG, the Working Group and the Agenda 21 for culture in relevant seminars and conferences
- 4.2. To disseminate the Agenda 21 for culture to academic and research networks on culture, governance and development
- 4.3. To propose agreements with research centres on the dissemination of the Agenda 21 for culture, the technical assessment of its implementation and the role of culture in processes of development
- 4.4. To promote research on the role of cultural policies in peace-keeping, in preventing violence and in respect for human rights, and to create action strategies on these issues

## **D. Composition**

The cities and local governments that compose UCLG's Working Group on Culture are: (registrations received at 8<sup>th</sup> June 2005):

#### **UCLG's Working Group on Culture (8<sup>th</sup> June 2005)**

1	Africa	Congo	Mairie de Brazzaville
2	Africa	Mali	Mairie de Bamako
3	Africa	Morocco	Conseil Municipal d'Essaouira
4	Europe	Belgium	Ville de Huy
5	Europe	France	Cités Unies France
6	Europe	France	Conseil Général Gironde
7	Europe	France	Conseil Général Seine Saint Denis
8	Europe	France	Conseil Régional Rhône-Alpes
9	Europe	France	Mairie de Nantes
10	Europe	France	Mairie de Rambouillet
11	Europe	France	Mairie de Sainte Anne
12	Europe	France	Saint-Étienne Métropole
13	Europe	France	Territoires et Cinéma
14	Europe	France	Ville de Strasbourg
15	Europe	Italy	Citta Unite (CICU)
16	Europe	Italy	Comune di Roma
17	Europe	Italy	Comune di Torino
18	Europe	Italy	Comune di Venezia
19	Europe	Portugal	Camara Municipal de Abrantes
20	Europe	Portugal	Camara Municipal de Palmela
21	Europe	Slovakia	Cités Unies Slovaquie
22	Europe	Spain	Ajuntament de Barcelona

23	Europe	Spain	Ayuntamiento de Córdoba
24	Europe	Spain	Diputació de Barcelona
			Fondo Andaluz de Municipios para la Solidaridad
25	Europe	Spain	Internacional (FAMSI)
26	Europe	Sweden	City of Stockholm
27	Latin America	Argentina	Gobierno de la Ciudad de Buenos Aires
28	Amérique Latine	Brésil	Prefeitura Municipal de Porto Alegre
29	Latin America	Brazil	Prefeitura Municipal de Rio de Janeiro
30	Latin America	Chile	Municipalidad de Puerto Montt
31	Latin America	Chile	Asociación Chilena de Municipalidades
32	Latin America	Costa Rica	Municipalidad de Escazú
33	Latin America	Ecuador	Municipio de Quito
34	MEWA	Jordan	Greater Amman Municipality
35	MEWA	Liban	UCLG Office Lebanon, Syria, Jordania
36	MEWA	Turkey	UCLG-MEWA
37	North America	Canada	City of Toronto

The following Bureau is suggested:

- President: Barcelona City Council
- Vice-Presidents: Buenos Aires, Stockholm

The President will ensure the Secretariat of the Working Group during the period June 2005 – June 2007. The Secretariat will write a trimestrial report of activities in English, Spanish and French.

Decisions of the Working Group will be taken by consensus.

## E. Meetings

The Working Group on Culture will meet at least once a year.

The Bureau will meet at least twice a year.

With a view to deepening the partnerships, increasing effectiveness and reducing costs, the Working Group and the Bureau will try to meet simultaneously with the meetings of international organisations, institutions and networks that develop programmes on culture.

## F. Calendar of initial actions, June 2005 - June 2006

This calendar is to be completed with indications of cities and local governments

8-10 June 2005. Beijing.

- Approval of 2005-2007 Programme by Executive Bureau and World Council.

July 2005

- First phase of website development finished

September or October 2005

- Meeting of the Working Group, place and date to be decided. Possibilities should be explored in order to coincide with the 33th General Conference of UNESCO (Paris). Other possibilities to be explored.
- Publication of Agenda 21 for culture on paper, bilingual edition in Spanish and Portuguese (Interlocal, Buenos Aires, OEI, Diputació de Barcelona...)

#### October 2005

- Publication of Agenda 21 for culture in paper, trilingual edition in official languages of UCLG: English, Spanish and French
- Publication in PDF of Agenda 21 for culture in other languages

#### November 2005

- Participation in the annual meeting of the International Network on Cultural Policy and the International Network for Cultural Diversity, Senegal
- Second phase of website development finished

#### December 2005

- Meeting with UNESCO

#### Spring 2006

- Participation in the Executive Bureau and World Council of UCLG
- Participation in the annual meeting of the “Power of Culture” network (national cooperation agencies and culture)
- Participation in the FAL
- Report on handbooks / guides on the development of local plans on culture and the implementation of the Agenda 21 for culture (Diputació de Barcelona, other...)
- Report on cultural policies for peace (Escazú)
- Report on indicators on local cultural development

#### 19-23 June 2006

- Participation in the World Urban Forum 2006 – Vancouver

#### On-going activities

- Database update
- Dissemination and advocacy with international organisations, institutions, federations and networks
- Coordination of the implementation of the Programme 2005-2007 of the Working Group on Culture with the World Secretariat of UCLG